

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 03473 251544Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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P R 251450Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5599
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 3473

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, CY, TU, GR
SUBJECT: CYPRIOT FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS ATHENS

1. CYPRIOT FOREIGN MINISTER NIKOS ROLANDIS ARRIVED IN ATHENS YESTERDSY (APRIL 24) FOR A ONE-DAY VISIT ENROUTE TO STRASBOURG FOR THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE (COE) FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE. THIS WAS ROLANDIS' FIRST VISIT TO ATHENS SINCE HIS APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN MINISTER, AND WE ARE TOLD BY AN MFA SOURCE THAT IT WAS BASICALLY A GET-ACQUAINTED SESSION FOR THE GREEK OFFICIALS WHO DID NOT KNOW ROLANDIS WELL. IT ALSO SERVED, SAID OUR SOURCE, TO REAFFIRM THAT THE POLICIES OF THE GREEK AND GREEK CYPRIOT GOVERNMENTS WERE IN CLOSE HARMONY BOTH BECAUSE OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING THE CYPRUS QUESTION AND BECAUSE GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER PAPALIGOURAS AND ROLANDIS WOULD BE IN STRASBOURG WHERE COME CONTACT WITH TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER OKCUN WAS INEVITABLE, ALTHOUGH NO BILATERAL MEETINGS HAVE YET BEEN PROGRAMMED.

2. IN HIS PUBLIC STATEMENT FOLLOWING A WORKING SESSION WITH PAPALIOURAS, ROLANDIS SAID THAT CYPRUS QUESTION HAS NOW REACHED ITS MOST CRITICAL HOUR. THE TURKISH PROPOSALS HAD FINALLY BEEN
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RECEIVED, HE COMMENTED, BUT HAD BEEN REJECTED BY THEGOC AS "TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE." PAPALIGOURAS, IN HIS PUBLIC REMARKS, AGREED THAT THECYPRUS ISSUE HAD REACHED THE CRITICAL POINT, REITERATED THE GOG POSITION THAT IT WOULD GIVE FULL SUPPORT TO THECYPRIOT GOVERNMENT, BUT CAUTIONED THAT THE "INITIATIVE FOR HANDLING THE ENTIRE MATTER" IS IN THE HANDS OF THE GOC.
MCCLOSKEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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